

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 17 with the following:

[0028] In the present invention, the above-mentioned inclination angle  $\alpha$  is preferably in the following range:

$$0.10 \times \tan^{-1}(W/2D) \leq \alpha \leq 0.75 \times \tan^{-1}(W/2D)$$

$$\underline{0.10 \times \tan^{-1}(2D/W) \leq \alpha \leq 0.75 \times \tan^{-1}(2D/W)}$$

where D is the groove depth of the first lateral groove 3 in millimeters, and W is the groove width of the first lateral groove 3 in millimeters.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 23 with the following:

[0029] If the inclination angle  $\alpha$  is below the lower limit, there is bad affection on heel-and-toe wear during normal driving. If the inclination angle  $\alpha$  is beyond the upper limit, it is not preferable because the bottom surfaces 3a of the first lateral grooves 3 which are in the form of circular arcs in cross section are narrowed, whereby cracks are apt to occur in the bottom surfaces 3a and the groove areas decrease quickly as the blocks wear. The inclination angle  $\alpha$  is desirably in the following range:

$$0.3 \times \tan^{-1}(W/2D) \leq \alpha \leq 0.5 \times \tan^{-1}(W/2D)$$

$$\underline{0.3 \times \tan^{-1}(2D/W) \leq \alpha \leq 0.5 \times \tan^{-1}(2D/W)}$$

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 8 with the following:

[0030] The above-mentioned inclination angle  $\beta$  is preferably in the following

range:

$$\beta \leq 0.9 \times \tan^{-1}(W/2D)$$

$$\beta \leq 0.9 \times \tan^{-1}(2D/W)$$

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 8 with the following:

[0038] In the present invention tires, the inclination angle  $\alpha$  was equal to

~~$0.30 \times \tan^{-1}(W/2D)$~~   $0.30 \times \tan^{-1}(2D/W)$ , the inclination angle  $\beta$  was equal to  ~~$0.85 \times \tan^{-1}(W/2D)$~~

$0.85 \times \tan^{-1}(2D/W)$  and the curvature radius  $r$  of the chamfered face was 3 mm. In the prior art

tires, the inclination angle  $\alpha$  was 6 degrees and the inclination angle  $\beta$  was 2 degrees.